

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER. H.A.)

SUBJ: DAVID SCHOUMACHER - ABC/TV - EVENING NEWS,
18 NOVEMBER 74; HARRY ROSENTHAL, AP; DISTRICT
COURT BLDG., 19 NOVEMBER, AFTERNOON RADIO NEWS
FOR EAGLEBURGER

FYI. BEGIN QUOTE. THE WATERGATE DEFENDANTS HAVE BEEN CON-
FRONTED BY TWO DOZEN WITNESSES BUT THOSE WITNESSES HAVE
NOT BEEN NEAR AS DEVASTATING AS THE PRESIDENTIAL TAPES
AND IT IS THE TAPES THE PROSECUTORS ARE USING TO CLIMAX
THEIR PART OF THE TRIAL. STILL, EVEN THE TAPES LEAVE
RAGGED EDGES. EHRlichMAN FOR INSTANCE GAINED COMFORT
TODAY IN THIS EXCHANGE - HALDEMAN TELLING THE PRESIDENT,
'THE PEOPLE YOU ARE PROTECTING BY EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE,
LET'S FACE IT, YOU HAVE GOT EHRlichMAN -- I DON'T KNOW
ABOUT EHRlichMAN. JOHN KNOWS A HELL OF A LOT.' THE
PRESIDENT - 'HE DOES KNOW A HELL OF A LOT, BUT NOT ABOUT
THIS CASE.' (HALDEMAN) 'DOESN'T HE? O.K.'. THE
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PRESIDENT - 'NOT ABOUT WATERGATE, HE DOESN'T KNOW A THING,

UNFORTUNATELY.' THERE EVEN MAY BE COMFORT OF A SORT FOR MR. NIXON AS RECALLS THAT THE DAY AFTER JOHN DEAN DESCRIBED HUNT'S DEMANDS AS BLACKMAIL. MR. NIXON SAID THIS - 'THE PEOPLE ARE IN JAIL, IT IS ONLY RIGHT FOR PEOPLE TO RAISE THE MONEY FOR THEM. I DON'T MEAN TO BE BLACKMAILED BY HUNT, THAT GOES TOO FAR, BUT WE ARE TAKING CARE OF THESE PEOPLE WHO ARE IN JAIL.' THERE WAS NO COMFORT

THOUGH FOR SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER DESPITE HIS HEATED DENIALS THAT HE KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT THE PLUMBERS AND THEIR OPERATION AGAINST ELLSBERG. THE PRESIDENT DID TELL HALDEMAN 'ALL I KNOW IS THAT I THINK IT WAS PART OF THAT WHOLE OPERATION OF YOUNG WHERE WE WERE JUST LOOKING INTO THAT WHOLE BUSINESS OF LEAKS. HENRY WAS IN ON THAT, HENRY WAS AWARE OF THAT.' AND AS A SIDELIGHT WITH ALL THEIR OTHER PROBLEMS OF THAT TIME, MR. NIXON WAS DISTURBED THAT MR. KISSINGER, THEN STILL A BACHELOR, HAD MYSTERIOUSLY DROPPED FROM SIGHT APPARENTLY NOT FOR REASONS OF DIPLOMACY. HALDEMAN FINALLY REPORTED THAT KISSINGER HAD BEEN FOUND IN ACAPULCO. END QUOTE.

ROSENTHAL ITEM, 19 NOVEMBER: BEGIN QUOTE. AT THE HEIGHT OF THE WATERGATE TURMOIL, IN THE WHITE HOUSE IN APRIL 1973, PRESIDENT NIXON GAVE ORDER THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO CHANGE IN SECRETARIES OF STATE NO MATTER HOW ANXIOUS HENRY KISSINGER WAS TO TAKE THE POST. IN A TAPE RECORDING PLAYED FOR THE WATERGATE COVER-UP TRIAL JURY TODAY, NIXON IS HEARD TELLING H.R. HALDEMAN AND JOHN EHRLICHMAN THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WILLIAM ROGERS' DEPARTURE BE DELAYED UNTIL THE WATERGATE CRISIS WAS OVER. HE CAN BE HEARD TELLING HIS AIDES, 'NOW THE HELL WITH HENRY ON THIS; YOU'VE JUST GOT TO SAY, 'NOW HENRY, IT'S NOT APPEALABLE. YOU'VE JUST GOT TO SAY 'HENRY, THERE ARE BIGGER THINGS HERE.' THAT WAS ON APRIL 14, 1973. ROGERS EVENTUALLY SUBMITTED HIS RESIGNATION IN AUGUST AND KISSINGER BECAME SECRETARY OF STATE ON SEPTEMBER 22. END QUOTE. INGERSOLL

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